14th June, 1998, two packets—one containing about 350 grams of Heroin and the other packet weighing 1.80 Kgs. with inscriptions "UCIL JADUGODA 100%, 235 TARAPUR, India" suspected to be Uranium was found and a person arrested in the district of Burdwan in West Bengal. However, inquiries have revealed that the second packet contained Resin and not Uranium as suspected.

Activities of ISI

*417. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ISI of Pakistan has practically encircled India by increasing its activities in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Tarai in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, North-East, Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai and Coimbatore;

(b) whether local Islamic fundamentalist militants are receiving assistance from ISI in the shape of money, material and guidance; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to prevent these activities since April, 1998?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) There are reports of Pakistan's ISI's activities in these areas. It also has sinister designs on other parts of the country. However, it may not be correct to say that it has encircled India.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government is aware of the sinister designs of Pak ISI to de-stablize India by sponsoring terrorism and subversive activities in different parts of the country including its efforts to target and train misguided youth for engineering violence. A close and continuous watch is, therefore, being kept on the situation and all necessary efforts, including sustained operations against terrorists and subversive elements are being made to ensure that such designs are not allowed to succeed. Government have taken several steps which include sensitising and gearing-up the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and co-ordinated actions by concerned Central/State agencies, border fencing, intensification of border patrolling, supply of equipments for effective observation during day & night, increase in number of Nakas (Check Posts) as well as sensitising and alerting the State Governments regarding movements of Pak ISI agents, anti-national elements and insurgents.

Central Teams to States

*418. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS to be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have sent Central teams to the various States to make enquiry about the law and order situation there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these Committees have submitted their reports; and

(d) if so, what are the actions taken, accordingly?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) Two Central teams, one to Bihar and the other to West Bengal, were deputed during June' 98. The team to Bihar was deputed to assess the prevailing law and order situation in the State and the steps taken by the State Government to instill confidence in the general public in view of the killings of public representatives. The team to West Bengal was deputed to look into specific cases of crime committed against certain sections of the pupulation during the Panchayat polls and the steps taken by the State Government to instill confidence among the population. The reports of the teams have been received.

Artical 355 of the Constitution of India casts a duty on the Union to protect every State not only against external

aggression but also internal disturbance and to ensure that the Government of every State is carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. In the discharge of this duty, the Central Government is expected to keep itself posted with respect to goings-on in all States. Visits of Central officials to the States are part of this process. The Central and State Governments have all along been interacting on issues relating to law and order.

Power Plant for Cochin Refinery

*419. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power plant proposal for the Cochin Refinery is still pending;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in issuing clearance to the project; and

(c) whether Government are aware that the delay in clearing the project will escalate the cost and affect the power supply to the refinery?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the 500 MW power plant proposed to be set up by Cochin Refineries Ltd. at Ambalamugal, Kerala has not yet been submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for consideration of issue of Techno-economic Clearance. Scrutiny of the DPR could commence only after the same is submitted.

Cheating of Foreign Tourists

*420. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the Indian Express, New Delhi edition, dated the 27th June, 1998, under the caption "Another foreign tourist taken for a ride"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A German lady, Ms. H. Hahn, on her arrival at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi on 24th June, 1998 is alleged to have been cheated/harassed at the bank and taxi counters within the terminal building and later at a hotel in Cannaught Place. However, she left Delhi on 27th June, 1998 without making any complaint to the police about her alleged ordeal. The incident was reported in the newspaper on the same day and, therefore, the complainant could not be contacted.

The records of the Punjab National Bank counter at the airport were checked but these did not indicate any transaction made by Ms. Hahn at the bank. Delhi Police have, however, requested the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security and Airport Director to take suitable action against Nitin Transport. They have also issued a show cause notice to the proprietor of Bright Hotel regarding alleged cheating of Ms. Hahn.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

हथियारों की खरीद के लिए अग्रिम भुगतान

3059. श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र: क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उनके मंत्रालय की लापरवाही के कारण हथियारों की खरीद के लिए अग्रिम भुगतान किया जाता है और फिर अनेक वर्षों तक इन हथियारों को नहीं खरीदा जाता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछले पांच वर्षों के दौरान ऐसे कितने मामलों का पता लगाया गया है और उनमें अन्तर्ग्रस्त राशि का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि मंत्री स्तर पर आपत्तियां उठाए जाने के बावजूद कभी-कभी इस प्रकार के समझौते किए जाते हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?